VALENCIENNES FRONT

Five New Divisions Appear

Before the Americans.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE ANGLO-AMERICAN FORCES OF

THE VALENCIENNES FRONT, Oct. 12:-American and British troops captured

in the Bohain region what was probably

the largest enemy ammunition dump ever

taken. The shells, piled high, covered a large area. This capture will reduce greatly the quantity of ammunition avail-able to the Germans on this section of

All the Bohain roads were found to be mined when the Anglo-American forces entered the town. When the Ger-

nam sentrices discovered that the mines had falled to catch anything they shot at a big one in the centre of the place. They made a direct hit and the explosion blew a hole in the ground big enough to hold a large chateau.

Because the German divisions and regiments are so wived up and decident.

regiments are so mixed up and deci-mated the Germans are now supposed to have abandoned numbers on shoulder straps. Instead they are wearing dif-

straps. Instead they are wearing dif-ferent ictters on their sleeves designating

groups.

Since the beginning of the present operations the Americans have captured forty-six officers and 1,900 men, and since joining the British fighting forces

forty-six officers and 1,900 men, and since Joining the British fighting forces hey have taken 3,000 prisoners and more than sixty cannon.

Officer prisoners say their orders were to step fighting with infantry and to defend themselves solely with artillery and machine guns. They complained there was a great lack of ammunition and contains a second to the result of the result o

and guns as a result of the recent enor-mous captures by the Allies, and they added that the lack of motor transporta-

tion was responsible for such large numbers of infantrymen being taken

the exhaustion of the enemy, owing to FOE SHIFTS MEN TO

his exceptionally heavy losses, ten-dered possible the smooth execution of difficult movements.

Partial engagements on both siles of the Aire and violent attacks which

the enemy launched during the last

Cunel and the Bois des Ormes, te m-

few days in the battle sectors on sides of the Meuse, broke down with heavy losses for the enemy.

porarily lost, were recaptured by

PERSHING GOES RIGHT ON.

Reports He Is Before St. Juvin

Which Is in Flames.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12 .- Gen. Pershing

report on yesterday's operations says: On both sides of the Meuse violent counter attacks and desperate regist-

ances have failed to stem the advance

of French and American divisions We have taken Molleville farm, north

We have taken Molleville farm, north
of the Bols de Consenvoye. Our
troops have passed through the Bolse
de Foret and are before the villages
of Landres-et-St. George and St.
Juvin, which is in flames.

The American army corps operating
with the British has fought its way
more than ten miles through the enemy's defensive system and has captured over 1.800 prisoners since Oc-

tured over 1,500 prisoners since October 5. To-day this corps took the villages of Escaufourt, St. Benin and St.

Of the \$,000 prisoners captured by the American first army since Oc-tober 8 French units have taken more than 2,300.

2-FLIERS GIVEN UP AS LOST.

Machinist Missing Six Days.

Special Despatch to Tax Sun.

D. Tibbitt of Germantown, Pa., an avia-

CAPE MAT, N. J., Oct. 12.-Ensign R.

tor, and H. E. Grob of Pasadena, Md., numbers of infantrymen being taken his machinist, of the naval aeronautic since the offensive began, station here, practically have been given. Troops from five divisions from other

station here, practically have been given up as lost. They have been gone since Monday morning, when they went out in their seaplane from the Cape May station.

Since Monday night the ocean has been searched by scout patrol boats from the submarine station here by order of Capt. Frederick J. Haake, commandant, and every available means has been taken by Capt. Robert R. Paunack, commandant of the naval air station, to find them.

Troops from five divisions from other sections of the front have appeared in the line opposite the British and American. The bulk of them undoubtedly is being used to garrison the positions known as the Valenciennes line. All, however, are believed to have been empaged in the recent fighting and are in low strength and poor morale.

It has now been established that fifty-three cnemy divisions (715,500 men) have been engaged on the Cambrai-St. Quentin front alone since September 29.

day evening. We now hold the vil-lages of Hamel, Brebieres and Cuincy. Our troops are east of Henin-Lietard

and are in the western outskirts of

On the remainder of the front there is nothing to report beyond local fight-

FRENCH (DAY)-The French this

morning penetrated into Vousiers. They continued their progress along the entire Champagne front. They hold the general line of the Retourne

and the road from Pauvres to Vou-

GERMAN (NIGHT)-North of Le

GERMAN (DAY)-From position

to the west of Doual we retired to lines in the rear. The enemy followed slowly and in the evening occupied the

line Vendin-le-Viell, Harnes, Henin-Lictard and east of the Beaumont-Brebleres Rallway. Northeast of Cambral the enemy

attacked between the Scheldt River and St. Vaast. The object of the attack, which was launched here on a narrow

front by British divisions, was to break through to Valenciennes. The

intention was frustrated.

The enemy succeeded only in ob-taining a footing at Iwuy and on the heights to the east and southeast. Our

counter attacks, effectively supported by tanks, brought the enemy's assault here to a standstill. On the rest of

this front we repulsed the enemy from our lines and inflicted heavy losses on his dense attacking waves. Violent partial attacks by British,

American and French divisions on both sides of Bohain were repulsed in front of our positions. There have

been reconnoitring engagements on

South of Laon we have evacuated he Chemin des Dames. In the bend of the River Alsne, be-

tween Beryr-au-Bac and south of Vouziers we have occupied new posi-

tions. / Our movements, which commenced several days ago, remained, concealed from the enemy and, were

carried out according to plan.

In the Champagne the enemy followed us with caution. The victorious issue of the great battle of the Cham-

pagne, which the army of Gen. von Elinem with relatively weak forces obtained over the immensely superior strength of the French and Aberican armies in the fortnight's struggle, and

Cateau and on both banks of t Meuse violent enemy attacks failed.

PENNSYLVANIA MEN WIN PRAISE

Graphic Story of Their Brilliant Work in Clearing Argonne Forest.

NEW YORKERS IN IT TOO

Major Vail, With Men in Shell Hole, Mows Down Enemy Like Wheat.

By RAYMOND G. CARROLL. pecial Cable Despatch to THE SUN and the

Copyright, 1918; all rights reserved. WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN France, Oct. 12.—Major-Gen, Hunter Liggett, commanding the First Corps of the American First Army, has officially emmended the (deleted) division for its work in emptying the Argonne forest of Termans. This forest, which actually

was a leafy fortress, heretofore was con-sidered impregnable. New York troops were at the left of the Pennsylvanians, but it was the latter who drove northward in two columns through the beautiful Aire Valley, rich in its auturqual splendor, suddenly veering westward to capture the high points commanding the entire northern tip of

One column of Pennsylvania troops followed the winding course of the river while the other battered its way through while the other battered its way through the forest, double liason being main-tained constantly, first by intervening patrols and second by telephone com-munication, the latter presided over by the chief of the divisional staff. Col. Walter C. Sweeney. The V shaped cir-cuit of communication was not once broken, owing to the alertness and abilof the divisional signal officer, Lieut. I. Sidney A. Hagerling of Pittsburg.

Signal Men Are Modest.

Each brigade General always knew how far the other had advanced, which how far the other had advanced, which greatly facilitated their work and contributed to the success of the whole enterprise. Both signal officers modestly disclaim credit, saying the success of the undertaking was due to the unflinching bravery of the troops and the excellent handling of the artillery and to the magnificent team work between officers and men.

Realizing the materiality of this drive made repeated trips up the valley of the Aire during the operation, witessing the physical results piling up behind our progressing troops. These include nine German 77s, one of which was put into action against the enemy the day it was captured, the others later; three 150s, also usable; three German naval gups, an entire narrow gauge railway in perfect condition, with seven locomotives and 268 railway cars; twelve minenwerfers, one 3.5 Belgian gun and a complete sawmill, which we are already using to cut lumber for our

In addition we captured a complete hospital, with all tools and instruments and many beds, the hospital being im-mediately occupied by American surgeons and put into use by them; im mense quantities of engineers' and quar-termasters' stores, including clothing and lankets, which were at once humanely distributed among some 500 shivering German prisoners; a carboning plant a complete quarry, with tools for hing and handling stone.

machine guns and rifles captured. One company got enough machine guns to equip every one of its men and already has fired off 55,000 rounds of captured inition. Only a small part of the German property taken has as yet been

still living say is impossible.

In ten days of battering the German positions three Pennsylvanians have again covered themselves with glory. Major Robert M. Vali of Scranton, com-manding a battalion of machine guins, told of the fight near Apremont. He said he had planned to attack north of village at 5 o'clock in the morning.

Mowed Down Like Wheat.

Instead of building a trench system round the village he decided upon a se-

"When the Germans got close enough I gave the signal and our boys let them have it. Streams of lead poured into them, mowing them down like wheat. So numerous were the Germans that some of them got up to and beyond our positions, especially on the flanks, but these were immediately met by our infantry behind and not a German escaped."

Among those who distinguished themselves in this particular engagement were long strip of the west bank of the Oise

Among those who distinguished themselves in this particular engagement were Major Joseph S. Thompson, Pittsburg: Capt. Ralph C. Crowe, Harrisburg, and Capt George Potter of Buffalo. As for the General in command of the brigade, instead of being back somewhere in a dugout, he was erect all through the fighting, going from strong point to strong point and back, always directing the fire. His courage is the talk of the entire division and his ability has already lifted him to the level of military genius.

The Aire Valley, below the historic city of Varennes, where Louis XIV. was taken when he attempted to escape from France, is a bowl shaped valley gorgeous in color and rich in history. When the Pennsylvanians pushed their way to the lower crest of the ridge looking down into the valley German machine gunners still occupied the edge of the Argonne Forest to the westward. Our officers, including Generals, were sniped at when they came out with their glasses to plan the next phase of the attack.

Have driven deeply into the enemy territory and the French now control a long strip of the west bank of the Fitting was to the lower and of the plane. As no consulting the sire of the canal bank at Longchamys, but they had made too rapid progress and consequently returned.

The British advanced mounted patrois also have reached the canal bank at Longchamys, but they had made too rapid progress and consequently returned.

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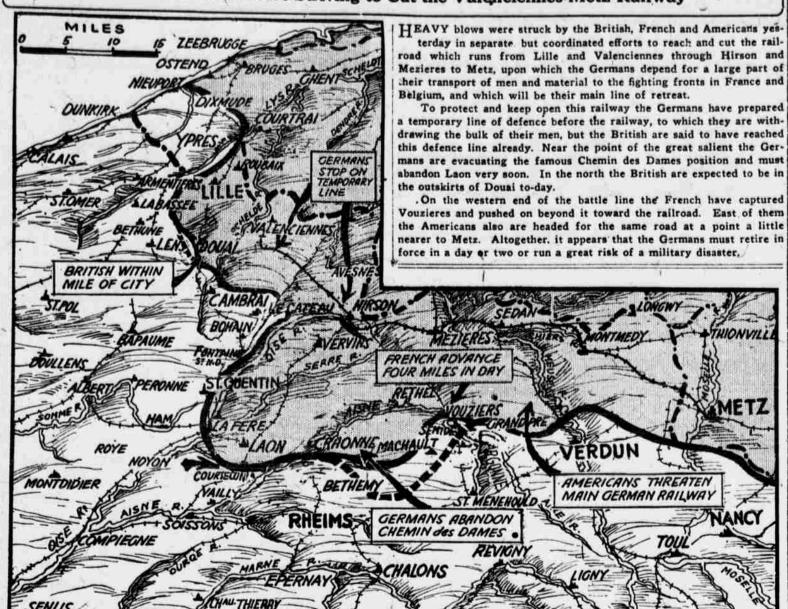
The British d

U. S. SECOND ARMY FORMED.

It Is Already in Operation, With Bullard in Command.

By the Associated Press.
WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY NORTHEST OF VERBUR, Oct. 12.—The American Second Army came into being to
y and began operations. It is under

Where the Allies Are Striving to Cut the Valenciennes-Metz Railway



DISASTER NEAR FOR ARMY OF GERMANY

Continued from First Page.

the Suippe at many points, and the Germans slowly are giving way before them. Still further east the French and Ameri-cans under Gen. Gouraud, after an advance yesterday of about four miles, in which they captured Machault and Gav-roy, pressed on to-day and took Vouzieres, a very important railway point. They occupy the whole line of the Re-

Villages Burned in Retreat.

Throughout this region the Germans are setting fire to all the viliages and are blowing up their ammunition dumps, gure indication that they are leaving it. Reports of such fires and explosions are brought in by airmen who flew over Marie, Vervins, Rethel and Neufchatel. Opinion in British m'litary circles

here is that the combined effect of the Allies' advances will be to make the German retirement, if not impossible, so onfused and costly that the main mass of the German army must be wrecked in the effort. The evacuation of the St. Gobain massif now is likely to be too late to eave the German armies from an irreparable breakdown, which would be intensified by the congestion that would

ENEMY TRIES HARD TO STAND ON SELLE

Seeks to Delay Allies Till Douai Pocket Is Evacuated.

By the Associated Press

Instead of building a trench system around the village he decided upon a series of strong points within shell holes. Major Vail with four guns, was in such a position about 500 yards from the village. All was set for the attack, both there and at other strong points, where 300 of our men awaited an artiliery barrage and word to dash for the enemy.

"It so happened." said Major Vail, "That the Germans had been planning to attack us in exactly the same way we had it in mind to attack them. Just as we were getting ready to attack we were getting ready to attack we were astounded to see the Germans rise out of the ground in front and come dashing toward us. Imagine it! Our machine guns, all placed, all loaded, all ready for instant action, with an eager American back of every one, his finger ready to press the lever. It was pitishle.

"When the Germans got close enough of the Americans and the Market of the main battle front. All the bridges across the River Selle from Le Cateau southward were blown up and the Germans seem to have been digging in furiously along the line of the high ground some 2,000 to 4,000 yards east of the river, which already has been crossed by the British and Americans at several places. Apparently like Germans intend to make a stand here.

In this locality all of to-day's operations have been devoted to gaining the river crossings and esablishing a firm front and come fashing on the east bank. There has been sharp machine gun fighting and the Germans, from the high ground of the clean and the germans, from the high ground of the river.

Prench Gaia Along Oise.

"When the Germans got close enough to attempt to slow up the Anglod and the dead all the privaries and the generican advance pa the main to-day to attempt to slow up the Anglod and the form. All the bridges across the River Selle from Le Cateau southward were bloward and the Germans seem to have been droudly and the Germans as eve Oct. 11 (delayed).-The enemy began

says an old proverb. Shabby gold crowns and "cheap" fillngs are a menace to good

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east of Le Cateau is for the purpose of protecting his forces in the Doual salient, for every foot gained in this bat-tle area increases the menace to the Germans in the Doual pocket. The

British encountered hard opposition in the Scarpe operations, but despite this they have made rapid progress. They have further relieved the pressure east of Arras and are now well to the east of Vitry-en-Artois and Noyelles-sous-The German machine gunners have been fighting hard in the environs of Le Cateau, and the better part of today was required to clear them out. Little posts of the enemy, well supplied

with ammunition, apparently had been left behind by their commanders with instructions to sell themselves as dearly as possible. They obeyed orders and frequently held out manfully. By the end of the day, however, it appeared that most of them had been driven out or killed, and the British were then re-ported to be moving eastward on the road between Le Cateau and Bazuel, some three miles to the southeast, from which they seemed to be about 3,000

yards distant. Only a Temporary Stand.

Northeast of Le Cateau the Canadians vere in the outskirts of the town of Forest, fighting their way forward

It was during last night that the first The fighting has been extremely intense, there being in many instances hand to hand encounters. The German hand to hand encounters. The German of Valenciennes, when the resistance was savage, picked men having been assigned to hold back the gion of St. Quentin, Cambrai and Douai.

Irreparable breakdown, which would be reports that the first intensified by the congestion that would reports that the Germans were digging in were received, and these were confirmed to-day. By midday the enemy way from a point southeast of Le Cateau, southward in front of Menneyret

slow up the advance in the area south- and the area near it fires were burning briskly.

The enemy is by no means sure of

The tion, being simply a scratch on the surface, probably protected by a few strands of wire. Moreover, the roads to the east are still cluttered up with enemy troops and transports. The airplanes report that the recreat is in progress far back of the present location of the

> Airmen Disrupt Retrent. The British aviators have become fa-

igued with the labor of killing Ger mans. During the last twenty-four hours they have fired hundreds of thousands of rounds from their machine guns and dropped hundreds of tons of ombs on targets it was impossible to miss. The road between Le Cateau and Bazuel offered some remarkable opportunities for the aviators.

Again and again great numbers of British planes ewooped low over this road and emptied their guns into masses of men and transport which were so thick that the bullets could not help but take effect. The road was more than once blocked with dead men and horses, upset wagons and masses of equipment. All this was cleared away and the retreat continued, only to be again quickly upset from the air.

Bombs also were dropped upon massed German troops and upon masses of men and transport in the neighborhood of Wassigny and other towns back of the German positions. Wide flights also have been made over the German rear, and there are still no signs that any real teau, southward in front of Menneyret lines of defence have been constructed.

BRITISH (DAY) — The advance and east of Grougls, while in Aisonville As a matter of fact the enemy hardly north of the Sensee continued yester

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player piano, with the additional charm of rendering for you,

has had time to construct such defences so fast has he been kept on the run. There are no indications that the Germans will be able actually to halt their

OFFICIAL REPORTS OF THE FIGHTING

German Retreat in Champagne Is Over a Wide Area.

LONDON, Oct. 12 .- The following reports of operations on the front in France and Belgium were tesued to-day by the various war offices:

BRITISH (NIGHT)-There was local fighting to-day along the line of the Selle River, between Le Cateau and Solesmes. Northwest of Solesme steady progress has been made throughout the day towards the Valley of the Selle.

The enemy rear guards have been driven out of the villages of St. Vaark. St. Aubert, Villers-en-Cauchies and Avesnes-le-Sec 'anal at Arleux and Corbehem, both of which villages are in our posses-sion. We are closely approaching the line of the canal west of Doual.

In the sector east of Lens we can tured Montigny, Harnes and Annay. On the whole of this front there was sharp local fighting, in the course of which we inflicted numerous casualties on the German rear guards and took

BRITISH (DAY) - The advance

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